



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hirotaka CHIBA, et al.**

Serial No.: **09/351,235**

Filed: **July 9, 1999**

For: **IMAGE READER**

Group Art Unit: **2624**

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Technology Center 2600

Examiner: **Jerome Grant II**

P.T.O. Confirmation No.: **9455**

**RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**  
**DATED March 21, 2003**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Date: **April 16, 2003**

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated March 21, 2003.

In the Action, restriction is required among **Group (I)**: Claims 1-28 and 93-105, drawn to detecting a position of an original medium and reading it; **Group (II)**: Claims 29-52, drawn to reading a document based on the detected position of a platen cover; **Group (III)**: Claims 53-79, drawn to reading a document based upon the detection of the position of the platen as well as the position of the original medium; **Group (IV)**: Claim 80, drawn to detecting a position between a reading unit and the original medium and detecting a medium before reading operation is performed; **Group (V)**: Claims 81-88, drawn to determining pre-reading conditions before an original medium is read; or **Group (VI)**: Claims 89-92, drawn to reading a plurality of images.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of **Group (I), Claims 1-28 and 93-105** for prosecution in this application. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 USC 120 and 35 USC 121 are retained.

By: **Hirotaka CHIBA et al.**

Serial No. **09/351,235**

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

In the event any additional fees are required in connection with this response, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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